introduce a new train from Bhopal to Bombay in view of density of passengers traffic *there; and*

(b) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Due to operational and resource constraints.

Train from Pathankot to Bombay

4096. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is any proposal to start a new train from Pathankot to Bombay via Burhanpur; and

(b) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Operational and resource constraints.

[*English*]

Operation Black Board

4097. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 'Operation Black Board' has provided basic amenities to all primary schools in rural areas of the country as per schedule;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the target is likely to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Initially the target of the scheme was to cover 20% blocks during 1987-88, 30% in 1988-89 and remaining 50% during 1989-90. However, due to constraint on resources phasing had to be lengthened. So far the scheme could be implemented in 69% blocks in the country comprising 64% primary schools.

(c) The remaining blocks would be covered during VIIIth Plan.

Fixation of Pay

4098. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some anomalies has arisen after the fixation of pay of Vice-Principals of Government Schools, Directorate of Education (District North) Delhi Administration in the scale of 2000-3500 as a result of recommendations of Fourth Pay Commission; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to remove the anomaly and also of the affected/retired employees.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Delhi Administration are processing the cases of the affected employees including those who have retired in consultation with their Finance Department.

Passenger Facilities at Kayamkulam Station

4099. SHRI T.J. ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide necessary passenger facilities along with shaded platforms at Kayamkulam station in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Passenger Amenities commensurate with traffic handled at Kayankulam station are being provided as part of Kayankulam - Quilon doubling work, now in progress.

(c) Does not arise.

Medical Facilities in A & N Islands

4100. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andaman and Nicobar Islands have any full fledged general hospital with all modern medical facilities and specialists in various branches of medicine and surgery;

(b) if so, whether for want of specialists in several fields, many patients are either referred to Madras or Calcutta hospitals; and

(c) if so, the details of fields where specialists are not available there and the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Nilambur - Feroke Line

4101. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to conduct preliminary survey to construct Nilambur-Feroke railway line via Manjeri; and

(b) if so, when the survey is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This has already been started.

[*Translation*]

Unemployed Blind Scholars

4102. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of blind students having M. Phil and Ph.D. degree are unemployed;

(b) whether the Government propose to reserve some posts exclusively for these highly educated blinds;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the other steps taken by the Government to assist such persons?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) to (d). At present reservation of 1% is available to the visually handicapped persons in respect of direct recruitment to